Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for the production of a ~~forged~~ piston for an internal combustion engine, the piston having a combustion depression provided on the piston head, comprising the steps of:

forming the piston from a first cylindrical ~~unmachined~~ part having at least one flat face made of oxidation-resistant steel and a second cylindrical ~~unmachined~~ part having at least one flat face made of hot-forgeable steel, with the same diameters, to produce a piston blank ~~by forging~~, said step of forming comprising:

bringing together the ~~unmachined~~ parts at their faces and aligning them with respect to their diameters, so that the faces form a minimal projection and parting; and

closing the parting completely from the outside, by producing a weld seam that runs over the circumference so that cover surfaces of the parts are free of a weld connection;

~~causing~~ forming the combustion depression ~~to be formed~~ in the oxidation-resistant steel by machining, and

finishing the piston blank via machining to produce a

piston ready for installation in the internal combustion engine.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the parting is closed by welding at room temperature or in a heated state of the ~~unmachined~~ parts.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein ~~before forging,~~ the ~~unmachined~~ parts, which have been welded together, are heated to a temperature of 1100°C to 1300°C, and ~~the unmachined parts~~ subsequently forged to produce the piston blank, in the heated state.

Claim 4 (Original): The method according to claim 3, wherein the heating takes place inductively.

Claim 5 (Original): The method according to claim 2, wherein the welding is arc welding, laser welding, or electron beam welding.